

# MSAA & MSAA SCIENCE

## What is an Alternate Assessment?

All students in grades 3-8 and one year of high school are federally required to participate in an assessment of math and ELA/literacy. Students in grades 5, 8 and 3rd year of high school are required to participate in an assessment of science. Students participate in either a general or alternate assessment in these content areas.

Alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards [AA-AAAS] are designed specifically for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. These alternate academic achievement standards are aligned to Maine’s grade level standards, and provide smaller, more accessible steps with reduced complexity and breadth. The AA-AAAS ensure that students with significant cognitive disabilities, often referred to as the 1% population, are provided with equitable access to instruction and assessment opportunities aligned to grade level expectations.

Maine’s Alternate Assessments based on Alternate Academic Achievement Standards			
Alternate Assessment	Alternate Academic Achievement Standards	Learn more about this assessment	Administration window for Spring 2022
<u>MSAA</u> <i>ELA/literacy</i>  <i>Mathematics</i>	Core Content Connectors in ELA/literacy  Core Content Connectors in Mathematics	<a href="#">MSAA   Department of Education (maine.gov)</a>	3/14/22 – 4/29/22
<u>MSAA Science</u> <i>Science</i>	Extended Performance Expectations	<a href="#">MSAA Science   Department of Education (maine.gov)</a>	3/14/22 – 4/29/22

[MSAA / Department of Education \(maine.gov\)](#).

[MSAA Science / Department of Education \(maine.gov\)](#).

### Resources for Families of Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

- [National Center for Educational Outcomes](#)
- [TIES Center Parent Video Series](#)

### Learn More about Maine’s Alternate Assessments

- [MSAA Consortium](#)
- [MSAA Assessment](#)